

Dear Sujay,

I hope your vacations are going well. How was Pondicherry? I hope you had a lot of fun.

I wanted to talk to you about something for quite some time and I don't think I will get a better time than this. Our fourth-semester results are out and I couldn't help but notice that you did poorly in most of the courses and even failed the "Real Analysis" course and I think that you being distracted and texting throughout the class is the biggest reason for this.

I know classes can sometimes be boring and focusing for two straight hours is impossible for most of us especially with back to back classes and little to no breaks but the least one can do is try. The classes might not seem as boring if you do the required readings and research beforehand just like you used to do in the first semester. You used to participate in classes, ask questions and take notes accordingly and write amazing assignments. Nowadays your literary output has literally reduced to text messages.

It might seem like a stretch but by not participating in classes like Understanding India and Public Reasoning you are depriving the rest of the class of your viewpoints and arguments and in a way hindering the process of learning for all of them.

This doesn't mean that I only care about grades but the way our college's grading system is set up, the grades more or less do reflect your understanding of the course and you got horrible class participation grades in almost all courses. You texting in class is also plain disrespectful to the professors. All of them put a lot of effort into every single class and you texting in class just might just throw them off the track.

I understand that bunking classes and messing with professors is a part and parcel of the college experience but you should know where to draw the line. And it's not just academics that have been affected by your intensive phone usage, it's your hobbies too. What was the last time you played table tennis, a sport which you dearly loved? What was the last time you gave time to any of your hobbies?

I hope you don't take my words as preachy and understand that I am just trying to make you realise that you might not be on the right path.

Shobhit